

Appl. No: 09/835,823
Amdt. Dated February 16, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 26, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-4, 6-10, 13, 14, and 17-24 were pending in this application.

Independent claims 1, 9, 18 are amended to include allowable subject matter from claim 24, which is canceled by this Amendment.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 13, 14, and 17-23 remain in the application for consideration by the Examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, claim 24 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but was found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Office Action also indicated that independent claims 9 and 18 would be allowable if they were amended to include the limitations of claim 24.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 24, with some alteration of the language to clarify antecedent bases and to more clearly track the language in Applicants' specification at page 12. As a result, claims 1 and 2-4, 6-8, and 23, which depend from claim 1, are believed in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 9 is amended to include the limitations of claim 24, with the limitations being presented in system form. Hence, claim 9 and claims 10, 13, 14, and 17, which depend from claim 9, are believed in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 18 is directed to a method and has been amended to include a step that presents the limitations of allowable claim 24. As a result, claim 18 and claims 19-22, which depend from claim 18, are in condition for allowance.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,758,071 ("Burgess"). Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 24, which was found to include subject matter allowable over Burgess. Hence, claim 1 and claim 2, which depends from claim 1, are believed allowable over Burgess.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Additionally, the Office Action rejected claims 3-4, 6-10, 13, 14, 18, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Burgess in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,681,243 ("Putzolu"). This rejection is traversed based on the following remarks.

Claims 3-4, 6-8, and 23 depend from claim 1 and are believed allowable as depending from an allowable base claim as discussed above.

Independent claim 9 is directed to a system for monitoring the configuration and/or status of devices on a network, and claim 9 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 24. Hence, claim 9 and claims 10, 13, and 14, which depend from claim 9, are believed allowable over the combined teachings of these two references.

Similarly, independent claim 18 is directed to a method for monitoring a set of information for a plurality of computer devices, and it has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 24. As a result, claim 18 is believed to be patentable with regard to Burgess and Putzolu.

Additionally, in the Office Action, claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 were rejected as being unpatentable over Burgess in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,732,275 ("Kullick"). Claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 depend from claim 1, which is believed to be in condition for allowance because it includes allowable subject matter from claim 24. Hence, claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 are believed allowable over Burgess and Kullick.

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Further, in the Office Action, claim 17 was rejected under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burgess in view of Putzolu and further in view of Kullick. Claim 17 depends from independent claim 9, which is amended to include the allowable subject matter from claim 24. Hence, claim 17 is believed allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

Yet further, in the Office Action, claims 18-22 were rejected under 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,182,157 ("Schlener") in view of Putzolu further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,828,830 ("Ranagaraian"). This rejection is traversed because independent claim 18 is amended to include the limitations of claim 24, which was found allowable over Schlener, Putzolu, and Ranagaraian. Hence, claim 18 and claims 19-22, which depend from claim 18, are believed allowable over these three references.

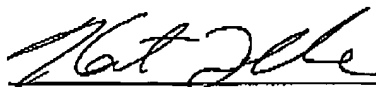
Conclusions

In view of the above remarks, Applicants request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

No fee is believed due with this Amendment, but any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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